

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 L-03 H-02 JUSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 SY-05 MCT-01 /069 W

----- 068184

O R 111957Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1744

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 2204

CARACAS FOR LEGAL ATTACHE

PASS TO WILLIAM HENDRICKS, NTSB, CENTRAL INVESTIGATON  
DIVISION, AVIATION ACCIDENT BRANCH (AI-11)

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, BB, CU

SUBJECT: JUDICIAL INQUIRY, CUBANA CRASH

1. SUMMARY OF TODAY'S SESSION OF INQUIRY FOLLOWS. THE  
ENTIRE MORNING WAS DEVOTED TO WRECKAGE EXAMINATION AT THE  
AIRPORT. THERE IS ABOUT 1,400 POUNDS OF RECOVERED WRECKAGE  
INCLUDING PORTIONS OF THE CABIN INTERIOR, CONTROL SURFACES,  
ONE NOSE GEAR, ONE MAIN GEAR. A PORTION OF THE INSIDE WALL  
OF THE TOURIST CLASS NUMBER 3 LAVATORY AND THE ADJACENT NUMBER  
4 LAVATORY DOOR WAS RECOVERED. THE INSIDE WALL OF THE  
NUMBER 3 LAVATORY IS COVERED WITH SOOT, IS HEAT DAMAGED  
AND THERE ARE NUMEROUS PUNCTURES OF ITS SURFACE. THE NUMBER

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3 LAVATORY DOOR IS SOOTED AND HAS SOME HEAT DAMAGE BUT NO

PUNCTURES OF ITS INSIDE OR OUTSIDE SURFACE WAS NOTED.  
SMALL PORTIONS OF THE COCKPIT DOOR AND ITS ADJACENT WALL  
WHICH WERE RECOVERED DO NOT SHOW ANY HEAT DAMAGE AND ARE  
NOT SOOTED.

2. AFTER THE AIRPORT EXAMINATION, THE INQUIRY WAS RESUMED  
BACK IN THE COURTROOM WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THE LOCATION  
OF THE WRECKAGE RECOVERED. AFTER THIS THE POLICY SGT. WHO  
RECEIVED ALL WRECKAGE AND PERSONAL EFFECTS INTO CUSTODY WAS  
QUESTIONED REGARDING THE PROCEDURES TAKEN IN RECEIVING THE  
MATERIAL AND IDENTIFYING IT. PROCEDURES FOLLOWED IN ALLOWING  
MR. ERIC NEWTON, THE BRITISH SABOTAGE EXPERT, TO TAKE  
SOME OF THE WRECKAGE AND PERSONAL EFFECTS RECOVERED  
WERE ALSO QUESTIONED.

3. TO DATE 13 OF A TOTAL OF ABOUT 32 WITNESSES HAVE BEEN  
QUESTIONED. IF THE HEARING CONTINUES ON SCHEDULE IT SHOULD  
BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER.

4. AT PRESENT THE ATMOSPHERE IS RELAXED WITH MINOR PLAY  
BETWEEN THE LAWYER REPRESENTING CUBA AND THE LAWYER REPRESENTING  
BRITISH WEST INDIES AIRLINES.  
BRITTON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LITIGATION, SABOTAGE, INVESTIGATIONS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, ALLEGATIONS, CONSULTANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BRIDGE02204  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760421-0103  
**From:** BRIDGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761159/aaaabzjfj.tel  
**Line Count:** 85  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JUDICIAL INQUIRY, CUBANA CRASH  
**TAGS:** EAIR, BB, CU, CUBANA AIRLINES, (NEWTON, ERIC)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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